MARVEL

A CLONE CONSPIRACY TIE-IN

The AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

024

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WHEN PETER PARKER WAS BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, HE GAINED THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED, STRENGTH, AND AGILITY OF A SPIDER; ADHESIVE FINGERTIPS AND TOES; AND THE UNIQUE PRECOGNITIVE AWARENESS OF DANGER CALLED "SPIDER-SENSE"! AFTER LEARNING THAT WITH GREAT POWER THERE MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY, HE BECAME THE CRIME-FIGHTING SUPER HERO CALLED...

The AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

WARNING! THE EVENTS OF THIS STORY TAKE PLACE AFTER THE REVELATIONS OF ***THE CLONE CONSPIRACY #5!*** IF YOU HAVEN'T READ IT, PROCEED AT YOUR OWN RISK!

MILES WARREN, THE JACKAL, A MASTER GENETICIST SPECIALIZING IN CLONING, HAS HARBORED A LIFETIME OBSESSION WITH PETER PARKER, AND HAS USED HIS TECHNOLOGY TO WREAK HAVOC ON HIM.

THE JACKAL HAD RECENTLY RESURFACED AS THE HEAD OF NEW U, A PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY PROMISING MEDICAL MIRACLES...WHILE ACTUALLY SWAPPING OUT TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS FOR HEALTHY CLONES. PETER WENT TO CONFRONT THE JACKAL, BUT FOUND THAT THE MAN BEHIND THE MASK WAS NOT MILES WARREN, BUT PETER'S OWN CLONE, BEN REILLY, BACK FROM THE DEAD!

DESPITE BEN'S BEST EFFORTS TO CONVINCE PETER THAT HE MEANT WELL, HE WAS ULTIMATELY UNABLE TO WIN PETER OVER, AND RETALIATED BY SETTING OFF A SIGNAL THAT DESTABILIZED THE CLONES' BODIES. IT ALSO UNLEASHED THE LETHAL CARRION VIRUS ON THE PUBLIC...A VERITABLE END OF THE WORLD IS LOOMING ON THE HORIZON.

"NIGHT OF THE JACKALS"

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NEW U HEADQUARTERS, THE JACKAL'S LABORATORY.

IF YOU DON'T MIND, OTTO, I HAVE IMPORTANT WORK TO DO.

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? I HAVE TO RESTART ALL OF HUMANITY.

EVERY CLONE ACROSS THE COUNTRY IS *DYING*. AND THAT INCLUDES *US*.

YOU'VE ENDANGERED THE WOMAN I LOVE! I ONLY HAVE ONE THING TO SAY TO YOU!

THE *DIE IS CAST!*

AND THEY SAY *I'M* CRAZY.

HEY, DUPE! HOW ABOUT A HAND?

Y-YES, I'M COMING-- I--I'M--

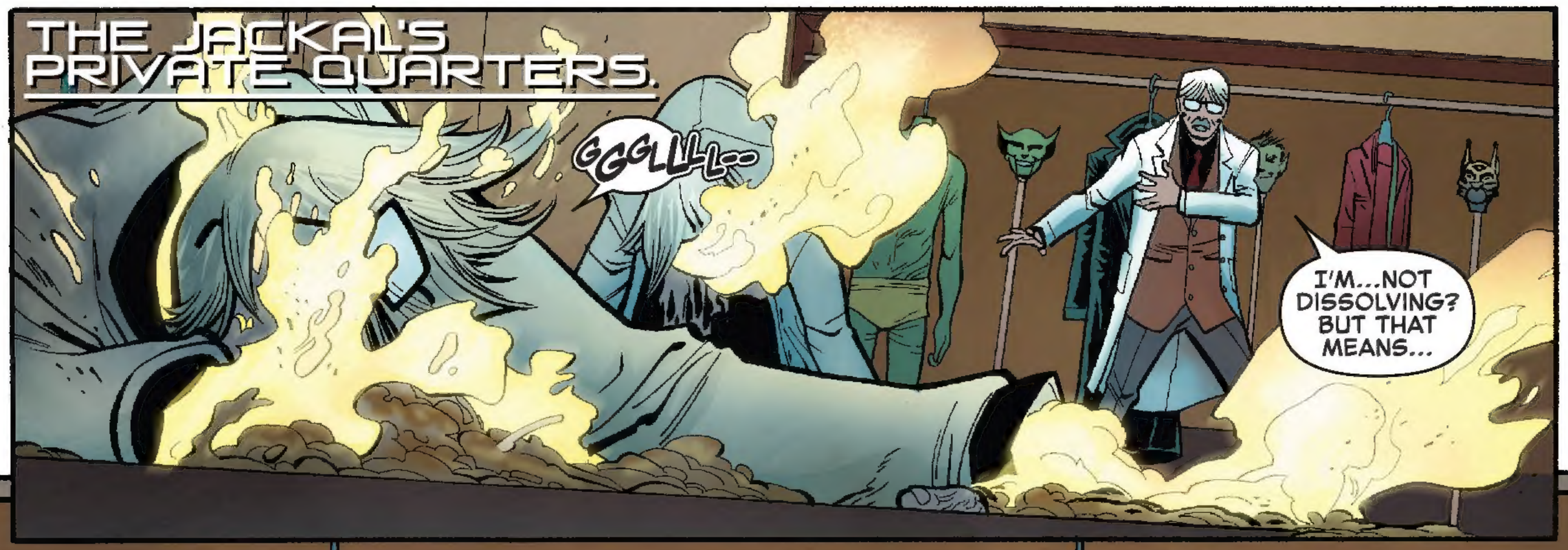
--AAAIII!

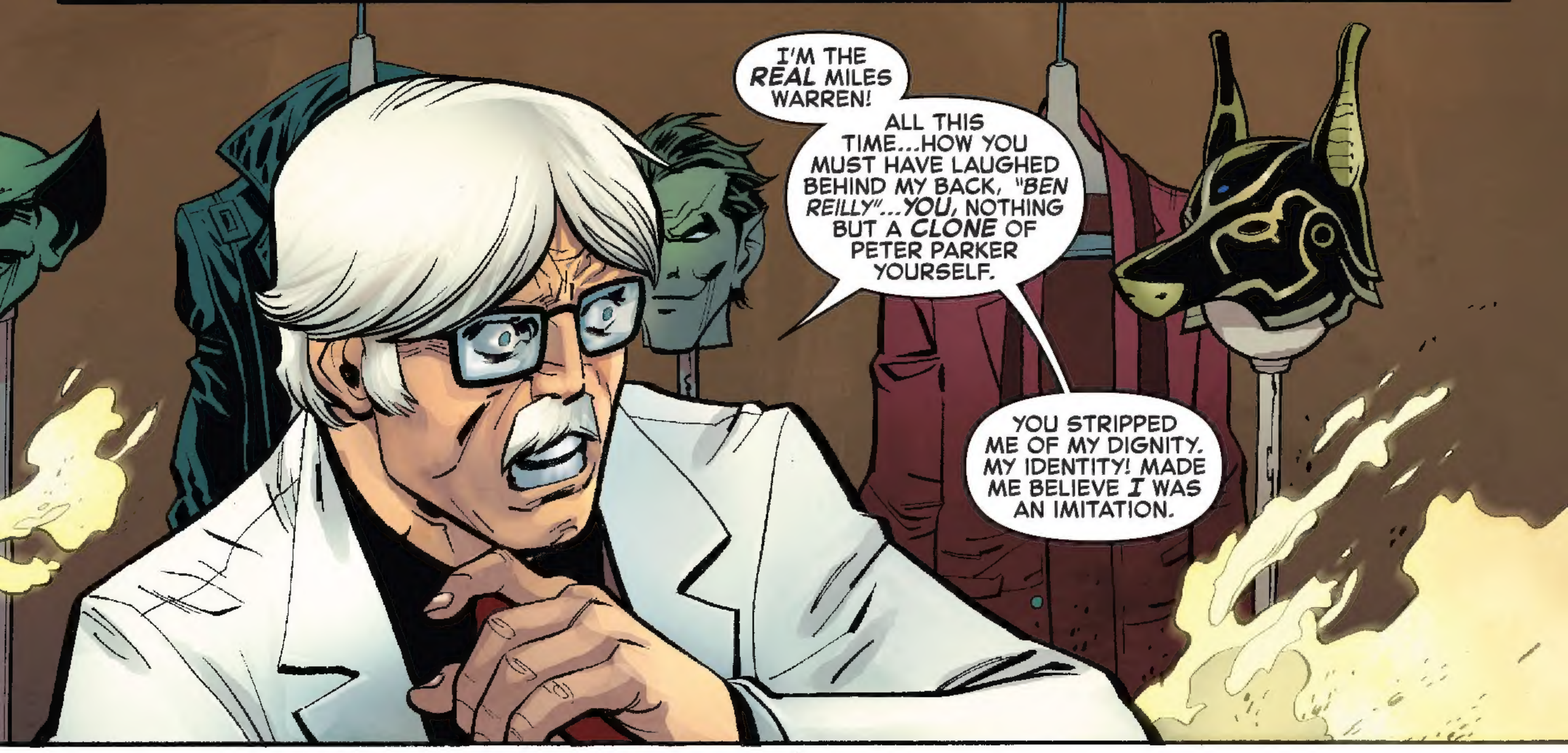
USELESS. ALL YOU MILES WARREN CLONES.

FIRST SIGN OF TROUBLE, YOU FALL TO PIECES.

CLONE INCUBATOR #3.
OH, GOD, IT'S HAPPENING!
NO! WE'VE GOT TO-- GNAAGH!

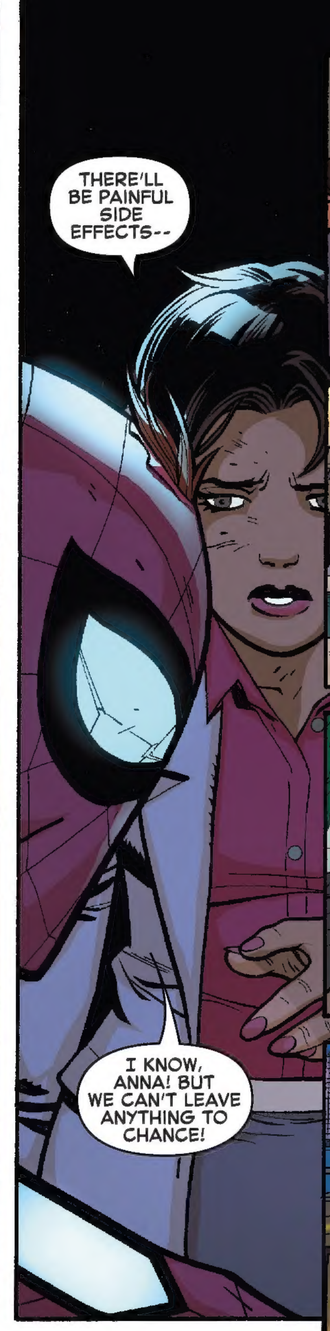
ADMINISTRATION.
AAIIEEEEEE!


THE JACKAL'S PRIVATE QUARTERS.
GGLLLLOO
I'M...NOT DISSOLVING? BUT THAT MEANS...

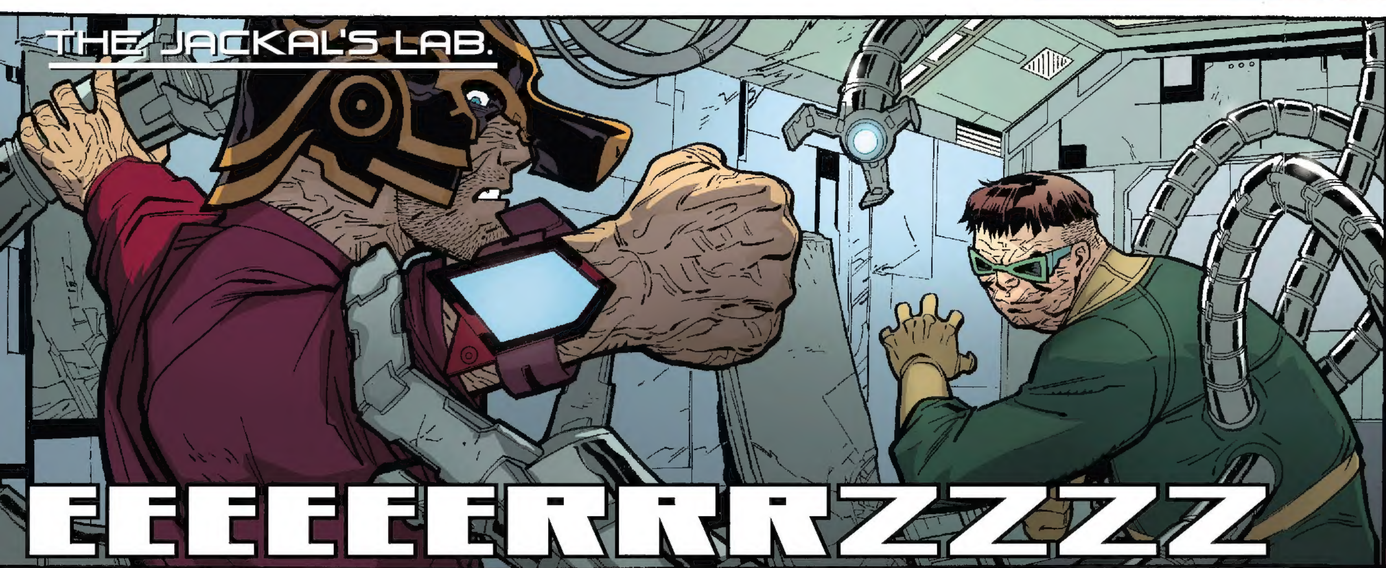

I'M THE *REAL* MILES WARREN!
ALL THIS TIME...HOW YOU MUST HAVE LAUGHED BEHIND MY BACK, "*BEN REILLY*"...*YOU*, NOTHING BUT A *CLONE* OF PETER PARKER YOURSELF.
YOU STRIPPED ME OF MY DIGNITY. MY IDENTITY! MADE ME BELIEVE *I* WAS AN IMITATION.

BUT NOW THERE'S ONLY *ONE* MILES WARREN AGAIN. AND SOON...
...THERE WILL BE ONLY *ONE* JACKAL!

HERE WE GO. ALL OR NOTHING. SENDING THIS OUT--
WORLDWIDE.
KLIK


THERE'LL BE PAINFUL SIDE EFFECTS--
I KNOW, ANNA! BUT WE CAN'T LEAVE ANYTHING TO CHANCE!

EEEEEERRRZZZZ
MANHATTAN.
AAOWW!
"WE NEED THE SIGNAL TO REACH EVERYBODY. ANYONE WEARING WEBWARE...ALL THE PEOPLE NEAR THEM."
EEEEEERRRZZZZ
PARIS.
AAA! AIDEZ-MOI!
"IT'LL STABILIZE THEIR CELLS--CLONE OR HUMAN.
EEEEEERRRZZZZ
LAGOS, NIGERIA.
"MAKE THE CARRION VIRUS INERT. STOP THE OUTBREAK IN ITS TRACKS...AND PREVENT ANY FUTURE ONES!
EEEEEERRRZZZZ
SHANGHAI.
"YEAH, IT'LL HURT! BUT SOMETIMES, SAVING THE WORLD HURTS!"


THE JACKAL'S LAB.
EEEEEERRRZZZZ

YOU--YOU SHATTERED MY WEBWARE?!
THAT SIGNAL--IT WAS STOPPING THE DECAY!
IT WAS SAVING BOTH OF US!
YOU PATHETIC CLONE! YOU ALMOST COST MY ANNA HER LIFE!
MELT WITH ME!
KSHH

YOU MORON! YOU SAW THE DUPE! THAT'S WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO *EVERY* CLONE BODY--

--EXCEPT...

... THE *PROTO-CLONE!*

WHRAK

GNGH!

YOU ACTUALLY PULLED IT OFF, DOC.

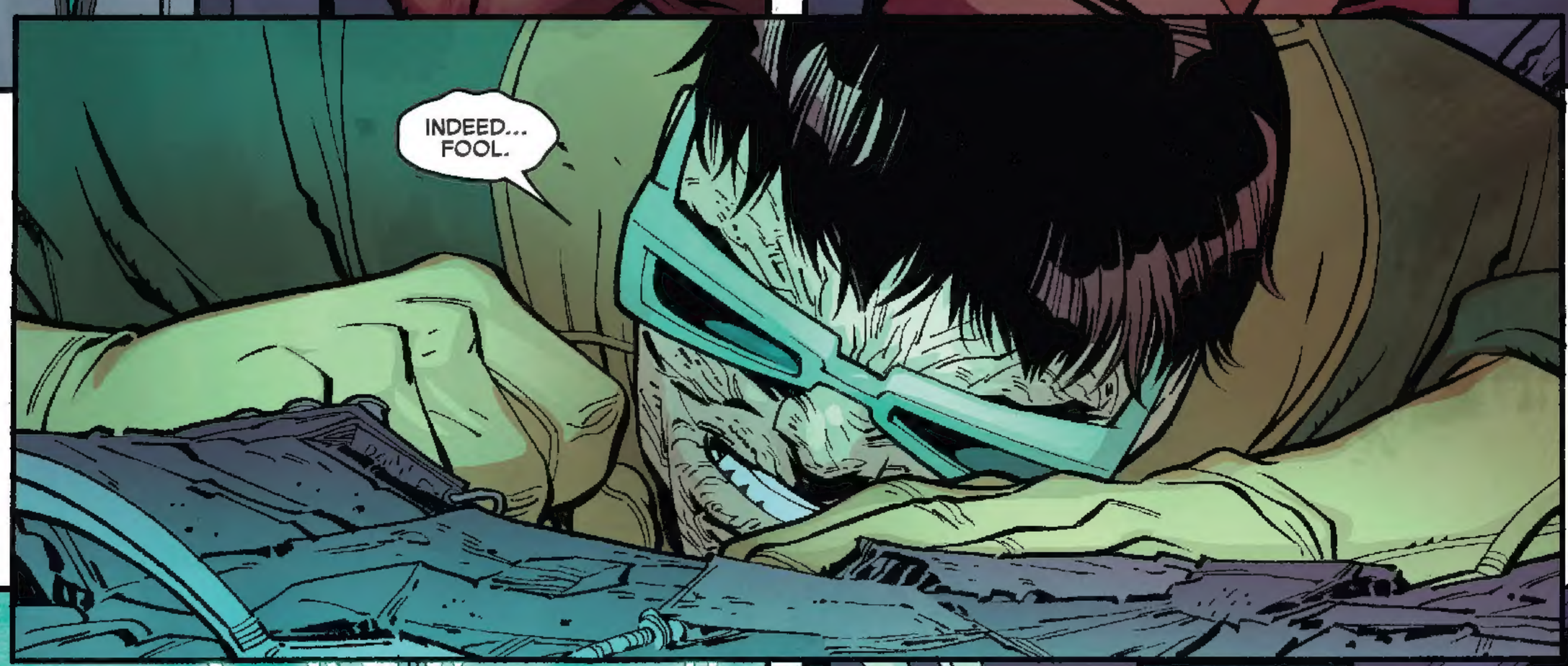
MY TECH AND YOUR BRILLIANT, TWISTED BRAIN MADE A CLONE THAT WON'T FALL APART LIKE THE OTHERS.

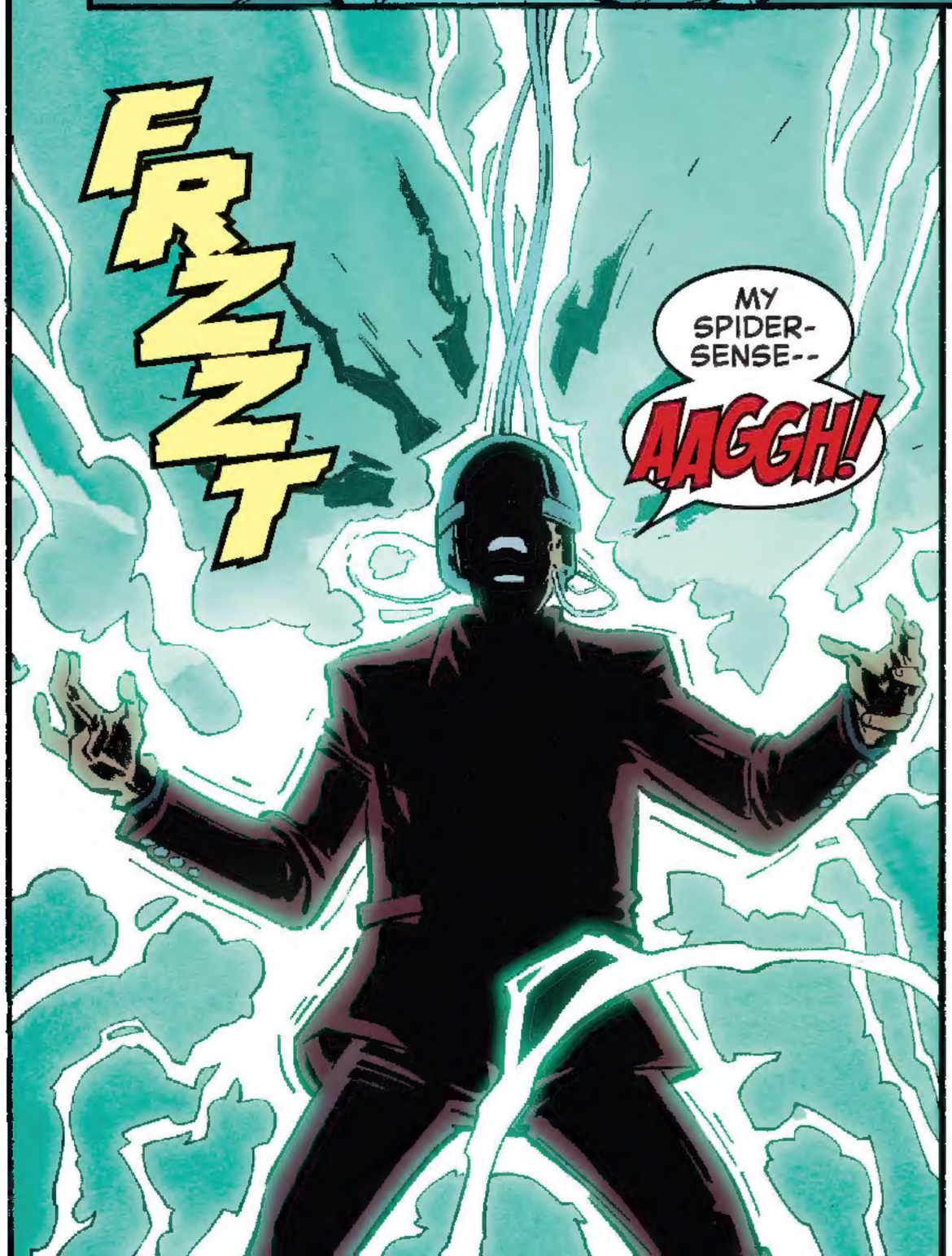
THE MOST PERFECT CLONE EVER CREATED. AN *IMPROVEMENT* ON NATURE. ALL IT'S MISSING IS A MIND...

...*MY* MIND!

I'LL BE THE ADAM OF A NEW RACE. THE ULTIMATE TRIUMPH OF LIFE OVER DEATH.

PARKER LUCK BE DAMNED! THIS IS GOING TO WORK OUT AFTER ALL.


INDEED... FOOL.


FRZZT
MY SPIDER-SENSE--
AAGGH!

THIS WAS INEVITABLE. I AM THE *TRUE* PETER PARKER'S SUPERIOR.
WAS THERE EVER ANY DOUBT I'D BE YOURS?
YES, *BEN REILLY*, I FIGURED IT OUT. IN FACT, I *COUNTED* ON IT! HA HA HA!

MERE MOMENTS LATER...

NNHH...

WHAT HIT ME?

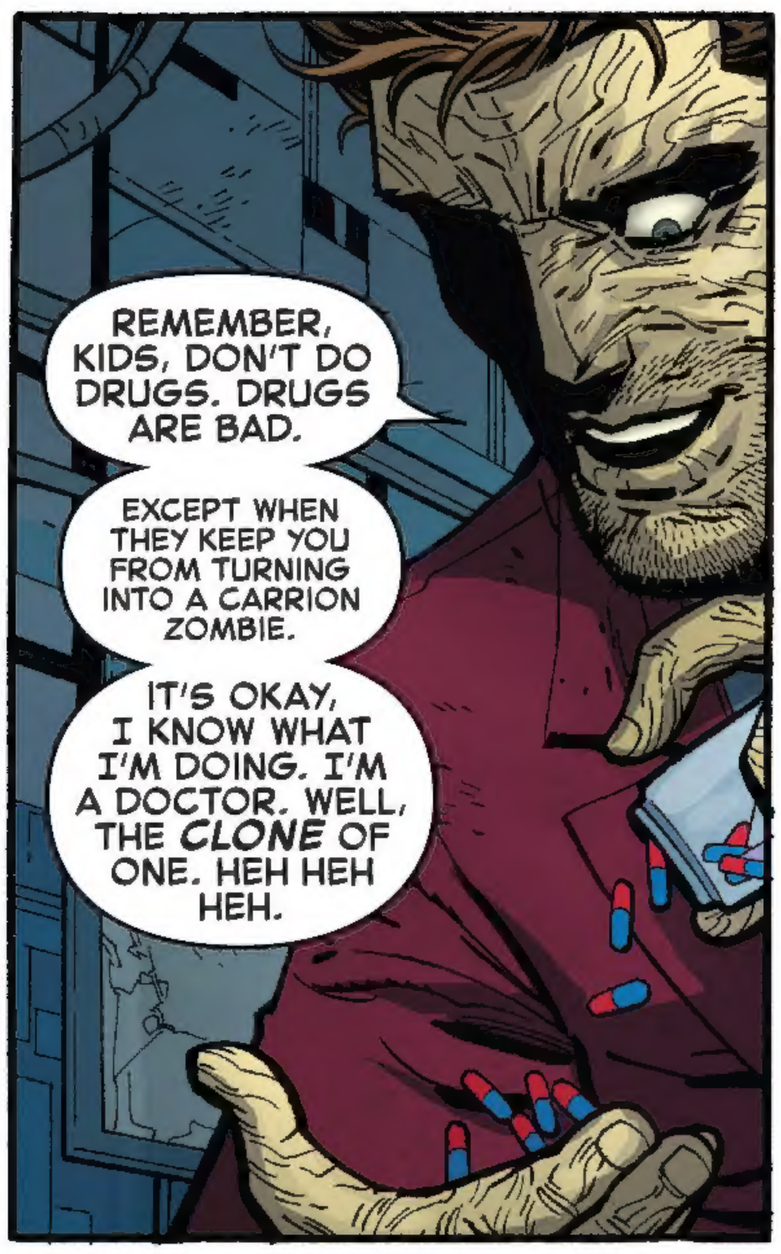
NO!

DAMN YOU, OCTAVIUS!

THAT BODY WAS SUPPOSED TO BE *MINE!*

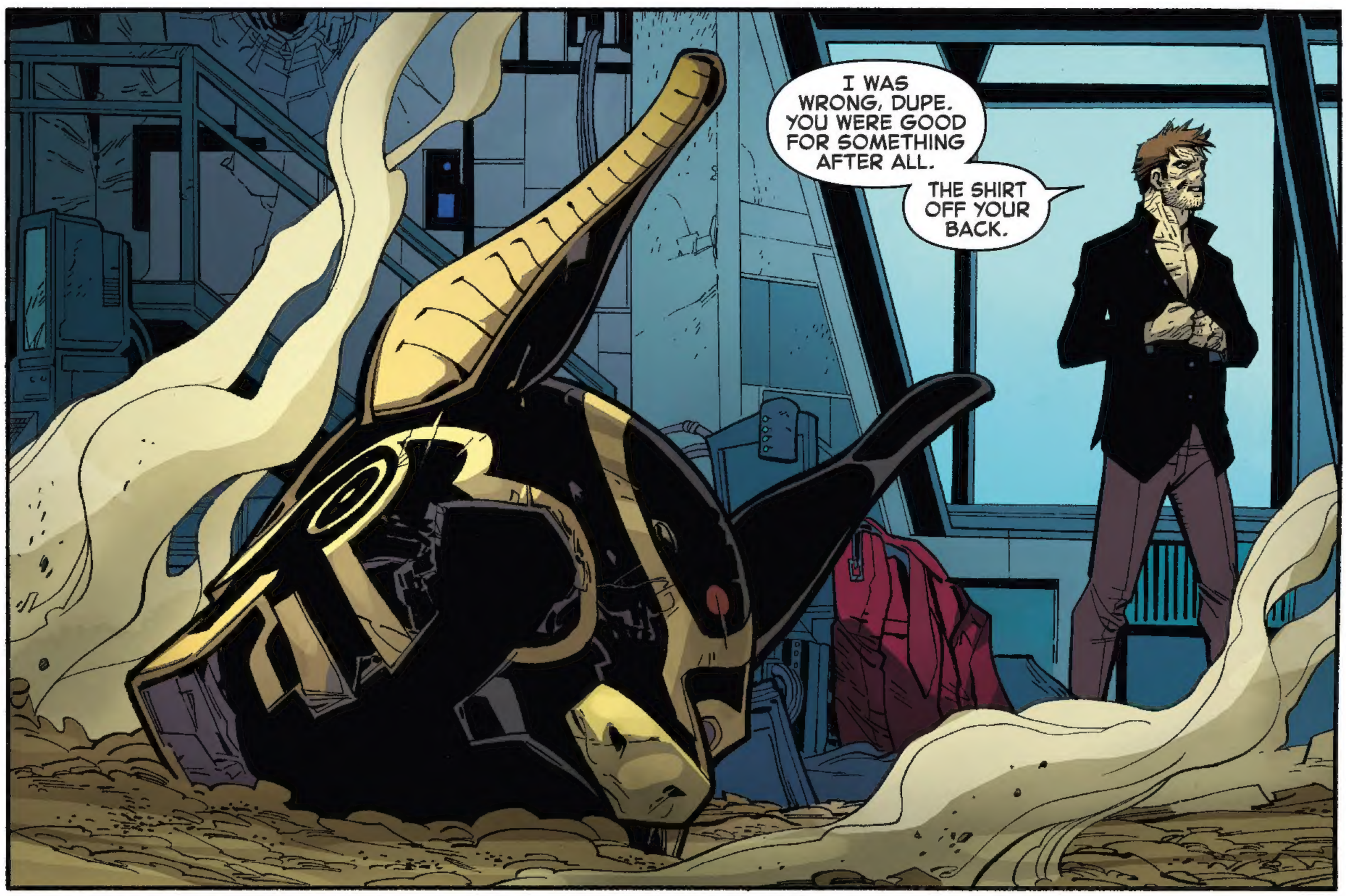
HOW LONG WAS I OUT?! HOW MUCH TIME DO I HAVE BEFORE--?!

...MUST *STABILIZE* MY BODY UNTIL I CAN CLONE A NEW ONE. *I WILL NOT DIE AGAIN! NOT LIKE THIS!*


REMEMBER, KIDS, DON'T DO DRUGS. DRUGS ARE BAD.
EXCEPT WHEN THEY KEEP YOU FROM TURNING INTO A CARRION ZOMBIE.
IT'S OKAY, I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING. I'M A DOCTOR. WELL, THE *CLONE* OF ONE. HEH HEH HEH.

GOTTA HAND IT TO YOU, OTTO, YOU'RE A DAMN GENIUS. AND YOU PLAYED ME!
BET YOU HAD THIS PLANNED FROM THE BEGINNING. RIGHT DOWN TO MAKING IT LOOK LIKE YOU DIED...

...TO THROW EVERYONE OFF YOUR SCENT.
WELL, WHEN IN ROME...


I WAS WRONG, DUPE. YOU WERE GOOD FOR SOMETHING AFTER ALL.
THE SHIRT OFF YOUR BACK.

C'MON! WEBWARE! EVERYONE'S GOT ONE!

IT'S THE MOST POPULAR ELECTRONIC DEVICE ON EARTH! SOMEONE HAS TO HAVE A--

EEEEEERRRRZZZZZ

AHHH! WHY WON'T THIS PIECE OF JUNK TURN OFF?!

SORRY ABOUT THAT. BAD MERCHANDISE. I KNOW THE GUY WHO BUILT IT.

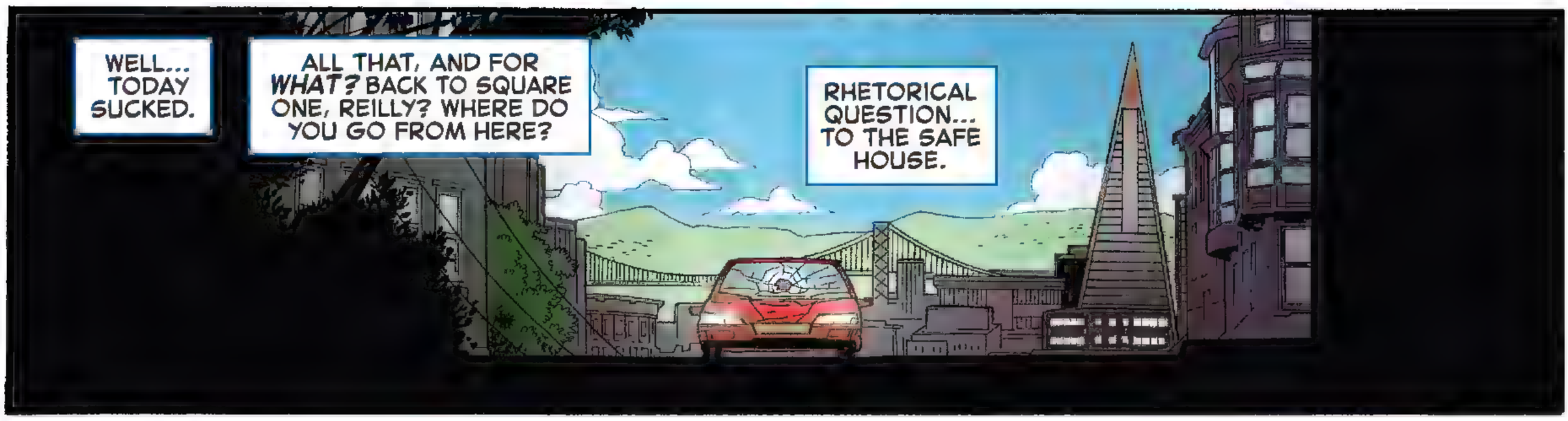
COMPLETE SCREWUP. LET ME TAKE THAT OFF YOUR HANDS.

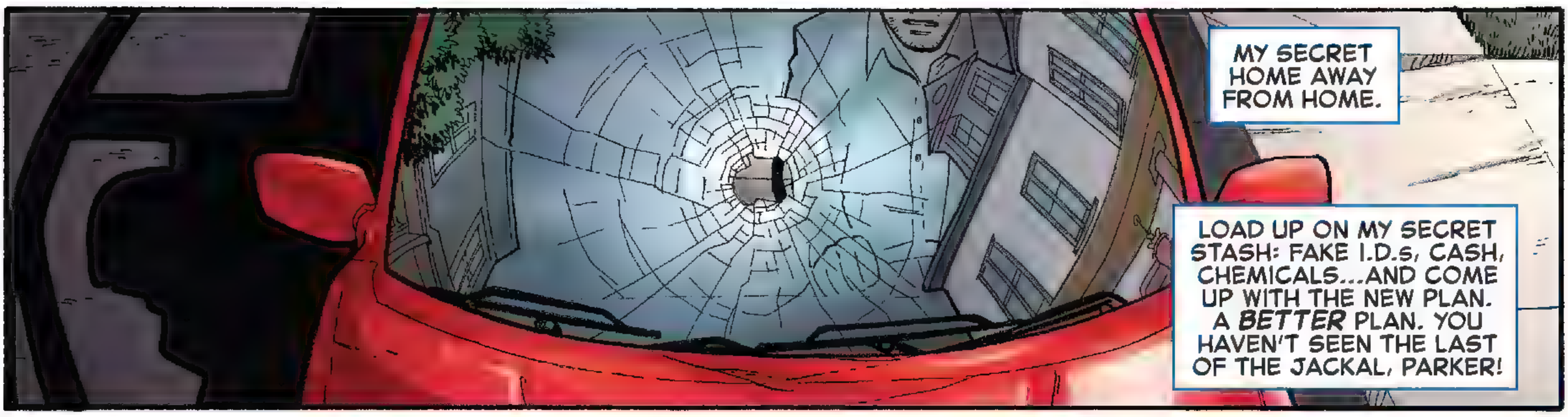
EEEEEERRRRZZZZZ

OHHHH YEAH. THAT HITS THE SPOT. JUST WHAT DADDY NEEDS. WELL, THAT...

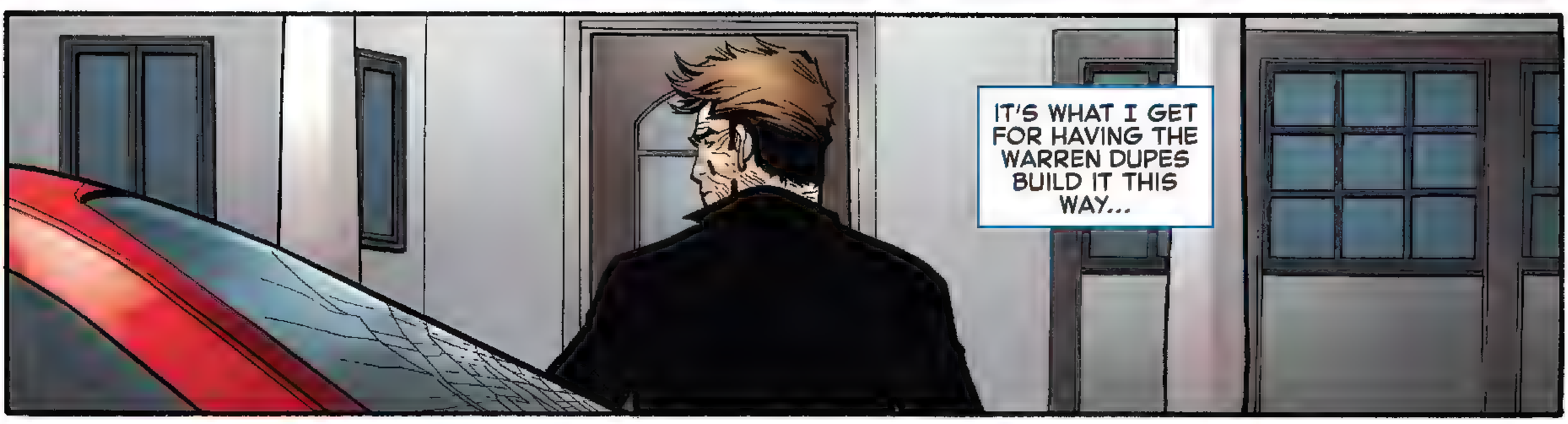
...AND YOUR CAR. GET OUT.

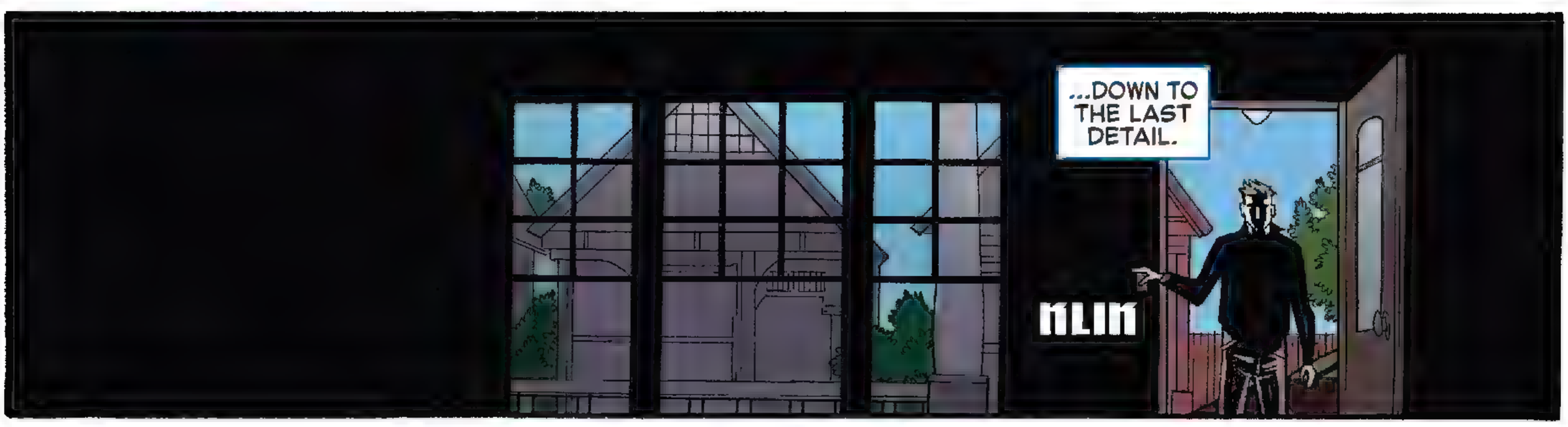
AHHHH! T-TAKE IT! JUST STAY AWAY FROM ME!


WELL... TODAY SUCKED.
ALL THAT, AND FOR *WHAT?* BACK TO SQUARE ONE, REILLY? WHERE DO YOU GO FROM HERE?
RHETORICAL QUESTION... TO THE SAFE HOUSE.


MY SECRET HOME AWAY FROM HOME.
LOAD UP ON MY SECRET STASH: FAKE I.D.s, CASH, CHEMICALS...AND COME UP WITH THE NEW PLAN. A *BETTER* PLAN. YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE LAST OF THE JACKAL, PARKER!

BUT I CAN'T STAY TOO LONG. THIS PLACE... STICKS OUT LIKE A SORE THUMB. YOU'LL FIND IT SOON ENOUGH. WON'T YOU, PETE?
WHAT CAN I SAY? I'M A SENTIMENTAL CLONE WHO LIKES HIS FAKE MEMORIES OF HIS CHILDHOOD HOME.


IT'S WHAT I GET FOR HAVING THE WARREN DUPES BUILD IT THIS WAY...


...DOWN TO THE LAST DETAIL.
KLIK

HELLO, JACKAL. IT'S ME...THE JACKAL.

BUT THE CLONES ALL--THEN YOU'RE--

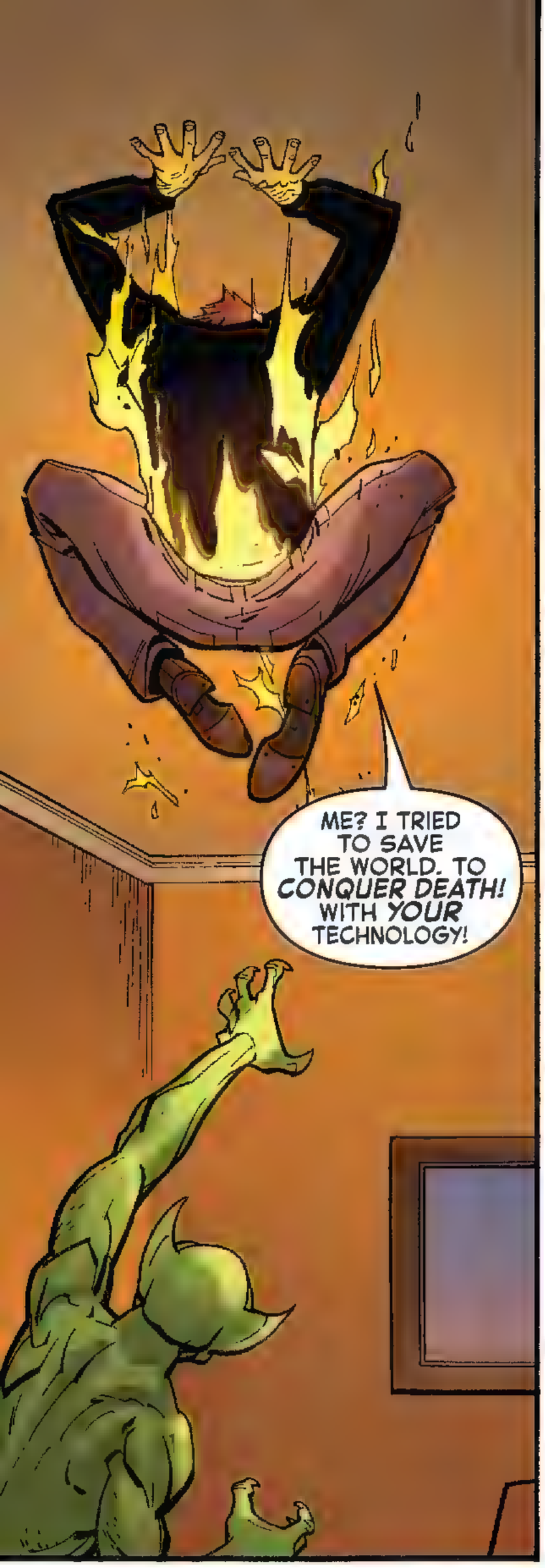
NOW HE GETS IT...AND TO THINK, YOU WERE ONCE MY STAR PUPIL...

WELL, NOT YOU. THE *ORIGINAL* WAS MORE ON THE BALL. HE WOULD'VE SMELLED IT BY NOW.

YOU!
YOU MADE ME JUST TO TORMENT ME, DIDN'T YOU?! TO MAKE ME! AND BREAK ME!
FWOOOSHH
KRAK

AGH!
UNGRATEFUL BRAT. I GAVE YOU THE GREATEST GIFT OF ALL!

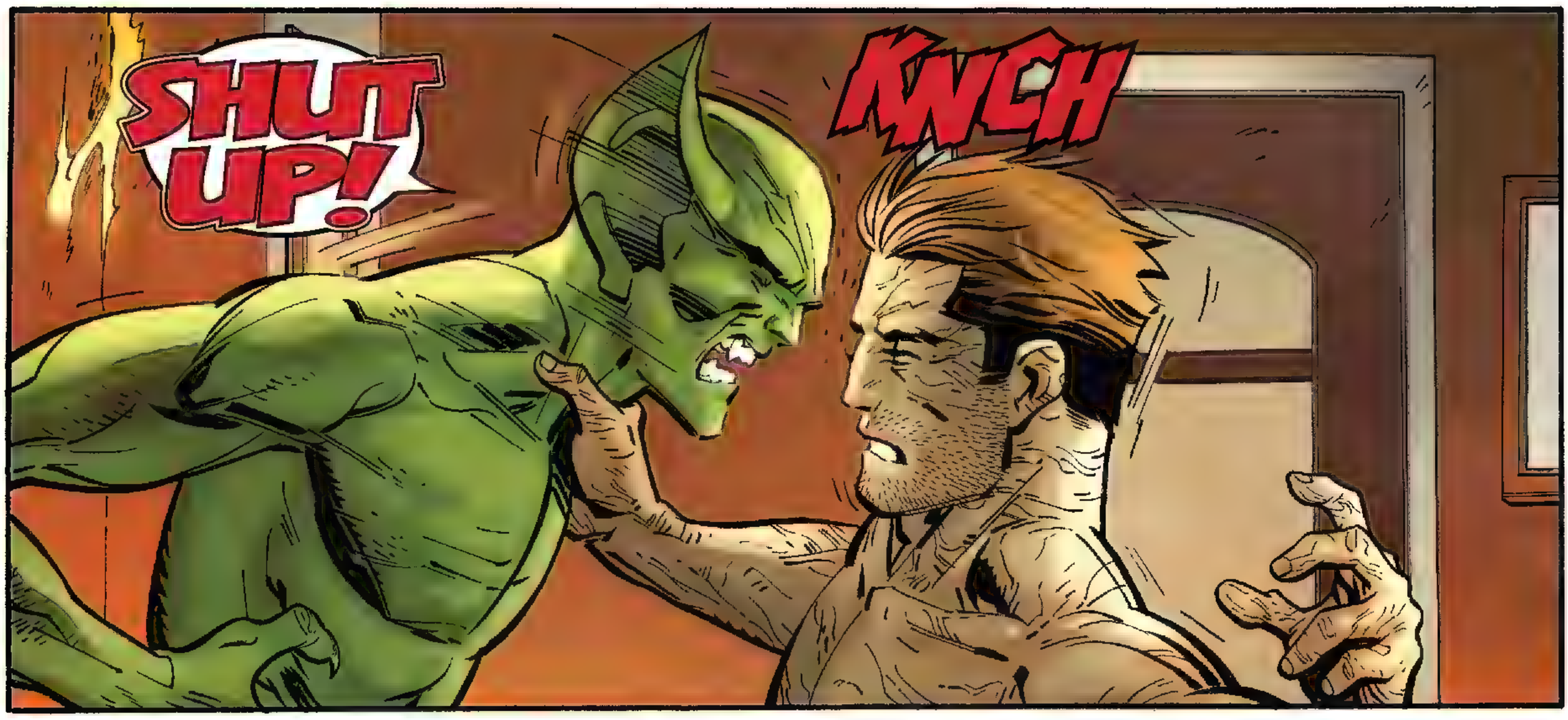
I GAVE YOU LIFE!
AND ALL YOU'VE DONE IS WASTE IT!


ME? I TRIED TO SAVE THE WORLD. TO *CONQUER DEATH!* WITH *YOUR* TECHNOLOGY!

WHAT DID *YOU* EVER DO WITH IT?

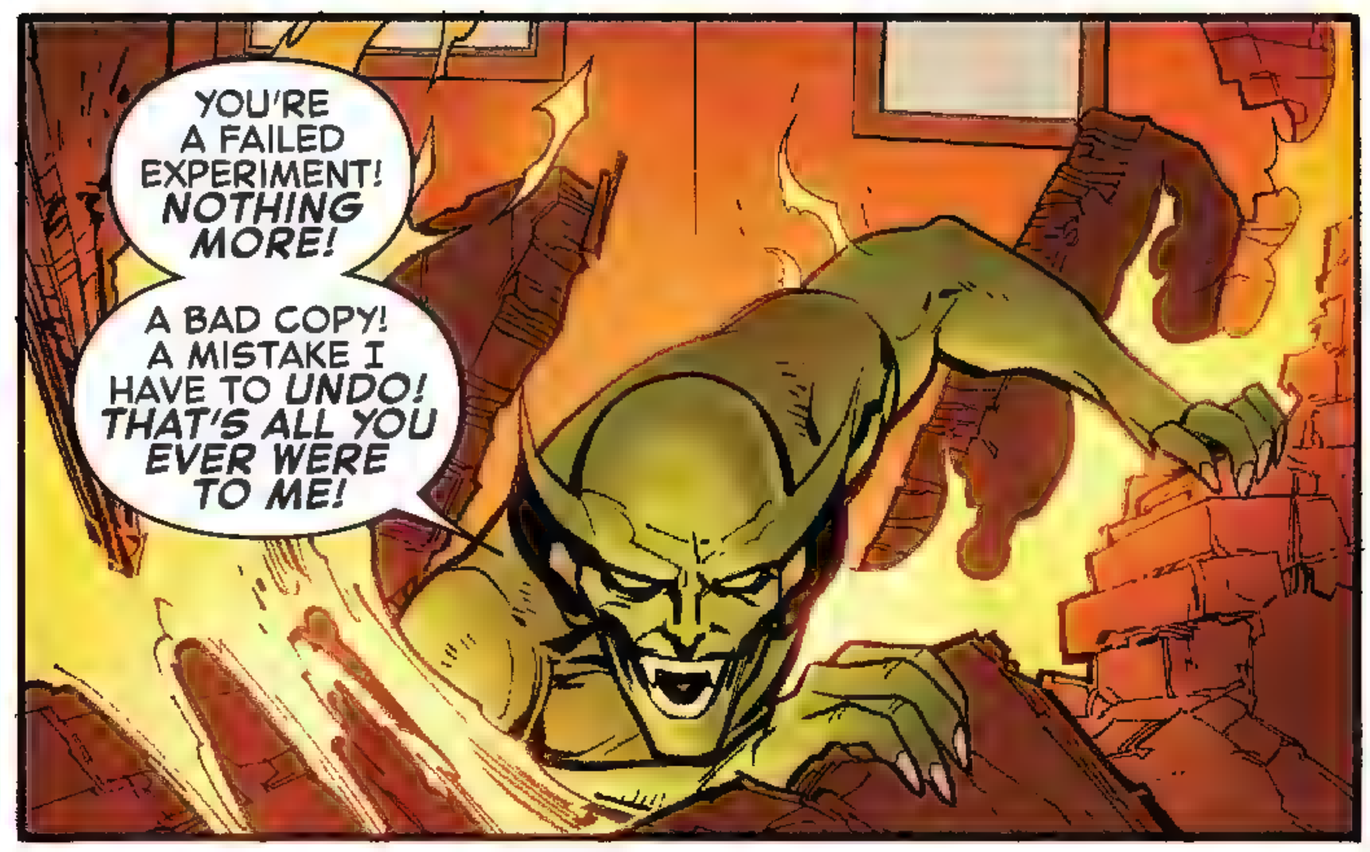
JUST FED YOUR OBSESSIONS! CLONING GWEN, THE GIRL YOU HAD A SICK CRUSH ON.
AND *PETER...*
AND PETER AND PETER AND...

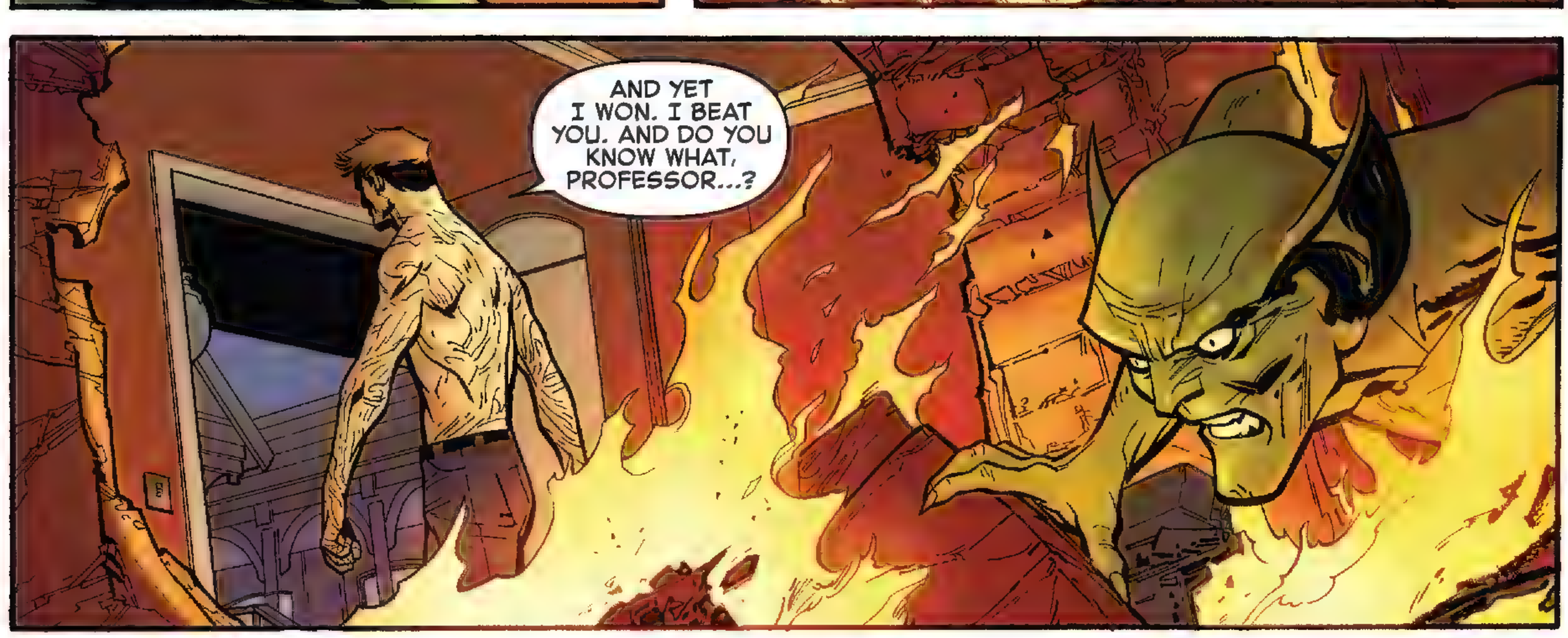
...ME.
THIS IS ALL ABOUT *ME* NOW, ISN'T IT?


SHUT UP!
KNCH

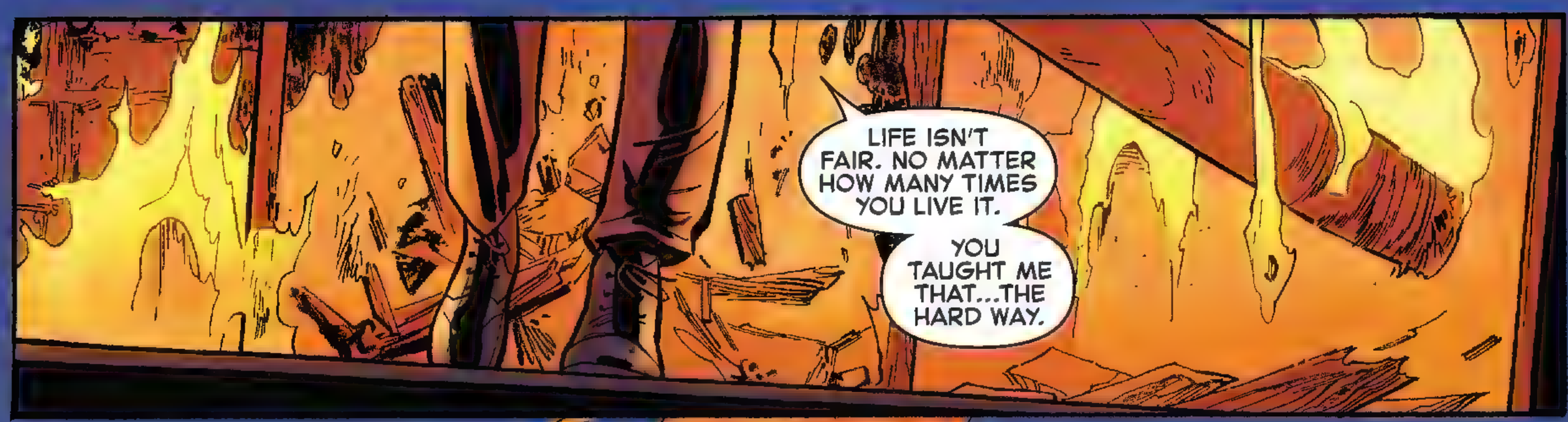
HA HA HA!
STOP LAUGHING! THIS ISN'T FUNNY!

I BROKE YOU! YOU COULDN'T CARE LESS THAT PETER PARKER IS OUT THERE SOMEWHERE.
YOU CAME ALL THIS WAY TO GET TO ME!
TO TAKE YOUR BEST DAMN SHOT AT ME!


YOU'RE A FAILED EXPERIMENT! NOTHING MORE!
A BAD COPY! A MISTAKE I HAVE TO UNDO! THAT'S ALL YOU EVER WERE TO ME!

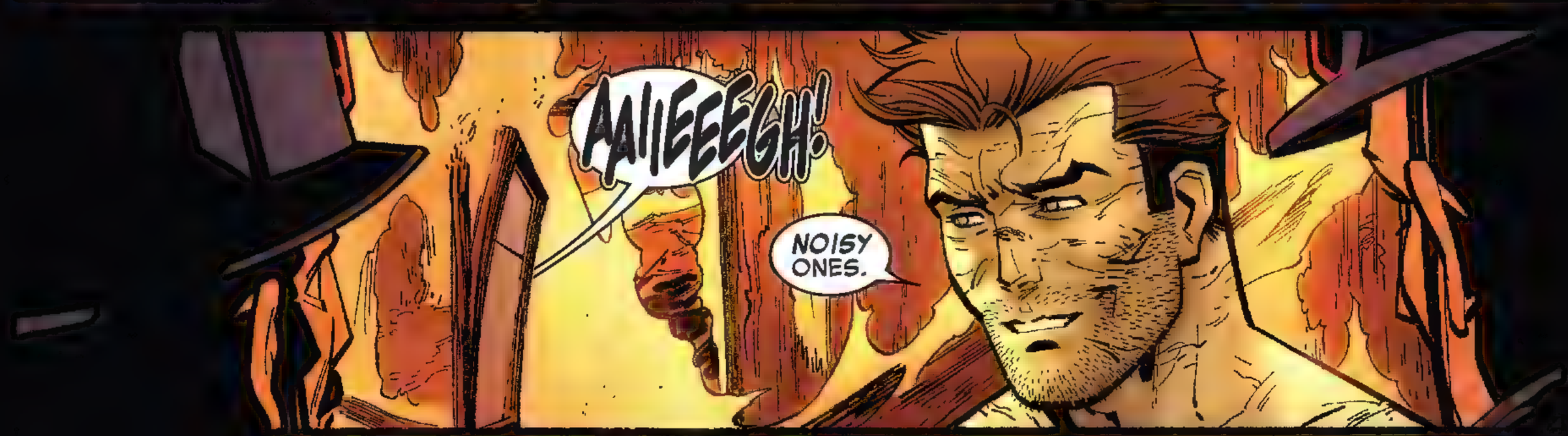

AND YET I WON. I BEAT YOU. AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT, PROFESSOR...?

I'VE LEARNED ALL YOU COULD POSSIBLY TEACH ME.
COME BACK HERE! FIGHT ME! I WILL HAVE MY REVENGE!
NO. I'M DONE WITH YOU. WITH THIS FAKE PARKER PAST IN MY HEAD!
RMMMMBL
WITH ALL OF THIS!
NO! THIS ISN'T FAIR! THIS ISN'T--



LIFE'S WHATEVER YOU MAKE IT.

AND IT'S WAY PAST TIME I STARTED MAKING IT *MINE.*



OKAY, YOU NEED MEDICAL ATTENTION, AND THEN YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS.

STEP OVER HERE AND--

NO.

WHUFF!

WRONG QUESTION.

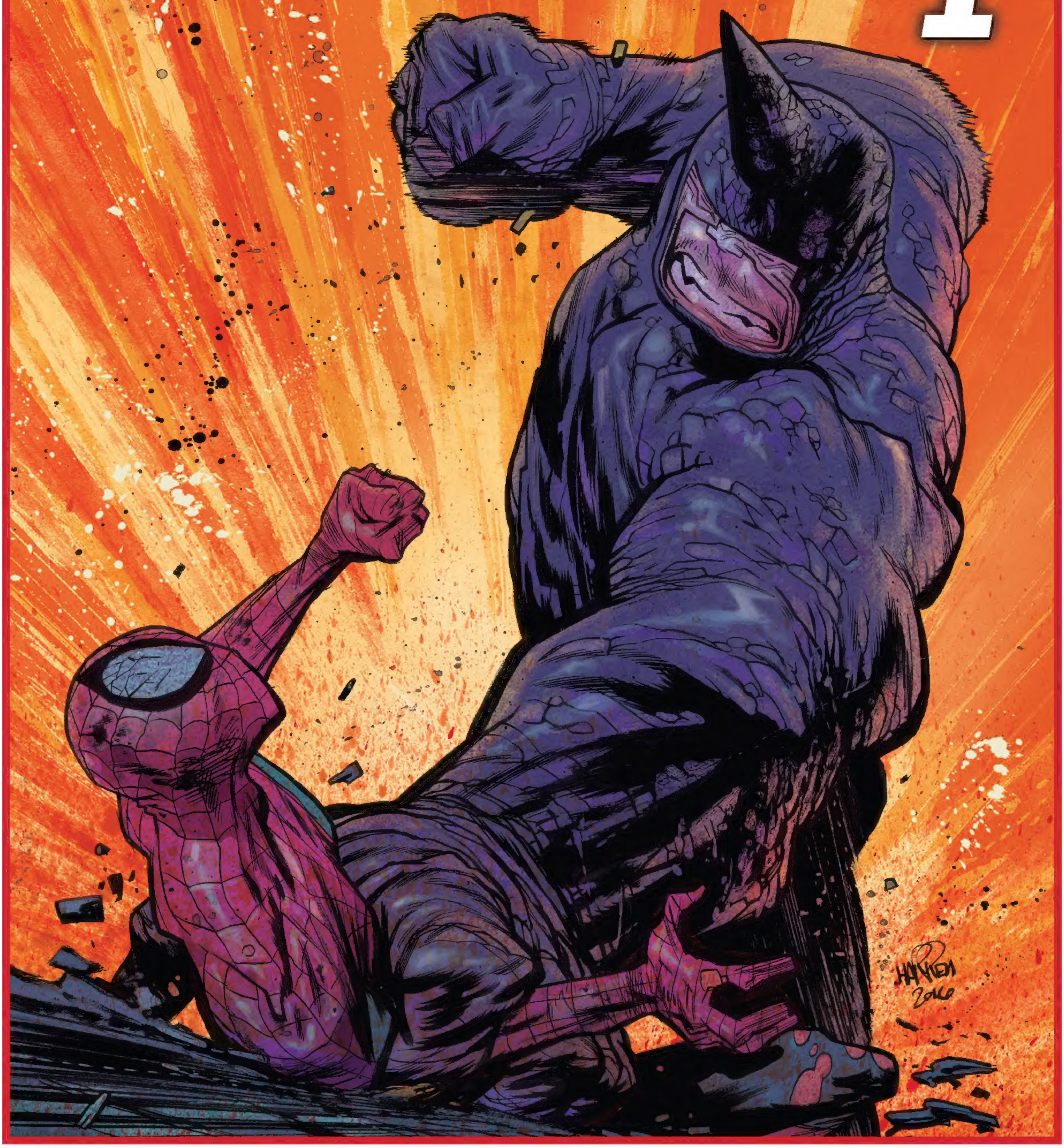
WHO I AM, WHO I WAS, NONE OF THAT MATTERS. WHAT COUNTS IS...

...WHO AM I GOING TO BE NOW?
NEXT: THE CLONE CONSPIRACY: OMEGA.

NEXT:

AN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN EVENT

DEAD NO MORE: THE CLONE CONSPIRACY OMEGA #1



ZONE